

RED SEA SEIZURES.

Balfour Not Yet Ready to Define Great Britain's Attitude.

EXPECTS NO REAL CRISIS.

Admits in House of Commons, However, That Status of Russia's Volunteer Fleet Is Serious Problem and Asks More Time to Consider It.

London, July 26.—Answering half a dozen questions based on the seizure of the Peninsular and Oriental company's steamer Malacca and other ships by Russian volunteer fleet steamers, Premier Balfour, in the house of commons, after referring to the diverse character of the questions, went on to say:

"The difficulties—I may say great difficulties; I do not wish to minimize them—arising from these captures deal with a problem which has given and is still giving the government great anxiety, but of which I may say the signs portend a favorable issue. More than that I think it would be inexpedient to say."

With reference to the question whether Great Britain was bound under the Suez canal convention to allow a British vessel taken as a prize to pass through the canal against the will of the owners the premier said:

"No act of war, so far as I am aware, has been committed in the Suez canal, and the convention expressly provides that a prize shall be treated as a man-of-war, and men-of-war are to have free right of passage. Therefore I do not think any particular difficulty attaches to that branch of the question or gives rise to a difficult subject for controversy between the two powers. I think there can be no doubt that we are bound to allow a prize of war to traverse the canal. The Suez canal is under international management, and it is not for an individual power to say what the rule binding the Egyptian government ought to be, but in the British government's view a legitimate prize may traverse the Suez canal without breach of the international arrangement."

Dealing with other features of the questions, Mr. Balfour said he did not believe that the removal of a portion of the cargo of seized ships at the discretion of the captain of a visiting warship without the adjudication of a prize court was sanctioned by the practices of international law.

Touching upon the question which had been raised on the subject of the status of the vessels of the Russian volunteer fleet, Mr. Balfour said he must regard this for the present as a forbidden ground.

"It gives rise," said the premier, "to a controversy which will better be settled if the house will for the moment be content with what I have said."

THE ARDOVA AT SUEZ.

British Cruiser Anchored Alongside Russian Prize.

Suez, July 26.—The British steamer Ardova, which after being fired at by the Russian volunteer fleet steamer Smolensk was seized by that vessel, has arrived here. She is flying the Russian naval flag and has a prize crew on board. It is declared that her destination is a Russian port.

The British cruiser Venus is anchored close to the captured steamer. Captain Smith of the Ardova has lodged a protest with the British consul against the capture and detention of the steamer.

Alexander Mikhailovich Blamed.

St. Petersburg, July 26.—The popular version of the Red sea entanglement, which has so embarrassed the Russian foreign office, is that it grew out of Grand Duke Alexander Mikhailovich, head of the department of mercantile marine, practically taking matters into his own hands and commissioning the vessels of the volunteer fleet, which had passed through the Dardanelles bound for the far east, to hoist the Russian war flag and seize merchantmen in the Red sea. It is understood that the emperor has censured his brother-in-law for taking a step of such gravity without consulting the foreign office. There is general relief, however, at the fact that Grand Duke Alexander Mikhailovich's precipitate action has not resulted in irreparable complications.

Volunteer Fleet Not Going Home.

St. Petersburg, July 26.—It is stated at the foreign office that the Russian volunteer fleet steamers Smolensk and St. Petersburg, while refraining from the right of stopping or searching neutral vessels, will not return home at once, but will remain in the Red sea until relieved by regularly commissioned warships, against whose right to stop neutral ships and search them for contraband no question can be raised. Later the volunteer fleet vessels will be recommissioned. The foreign office considers that further international complications regarding their action are entirely unlikely and the officials here are convinced that all the collateral questions will be amicably adjusted.

The Scandia Released.

Berlin, July 26.—The Russian ambassador, in announcing that orders had been issued to release the Hamburg-American line steamer Scandia, captured in the Red sea by the Russians, conveyed the assurances of the Russian government that the Russian auxiliary cruisers henceforth would not be permitted to search or seize neutral

vessels in the Red sea. Regarding the case of the North German Lloyd steamer Prinz Heinrich, seized by the Russian volunteer fleet vessel Smolensk, the ambassador informed the authorities here that the two seized mail bags would be returned as soon as possible, and that hereafter the mails would not be molested by the auxiliary cruisers.

British Warship on the Watch. Constantinople, July 26.—Vessels arriving here report that a British warship is patrolling off Cape Helas, fifteen miles south of the Dardanelles. She is using her searchlight, with the supposed view of intercepting any British ships which may have been captured by the Russian volunteer fleet steamers if they attempt to pass the Dardanelles.

Great Britain's Damage Bill. St. Petersburg, July 26.—Great Britain's bill for damages against Russia for demurrage and other indemnities connected with the arrest, detention and shelling of British ships in the Red sea will probably be very heavy. Already it is roughly estimated at \$5,000,000.

German Steamer Searched. Berlin, July 26.—The German steamer Lisboa of the Oldenburg-Portugal line has been stopped and searched by a Russian warship in the Gulf of Finland. She was then released.

OLDEST CONVICT FREED.

Governor Odell Pardons Eighty-two-year-old Prisoner.

New York, July 26.—Adolph Reich, who was the oldest convict in Sing Sing, is in New York. Governor Odell having granted his pardon. Reich will remain in the city only a short time before sailing to his old home in Hungary. He has only a short time to live, according to the doctors, and he has expressed a desire to end his days in his old home.

Eighty-two years old, very feeble, almost blind and his memory entirely gone, it is like a little child gazing for the first time on some wonderful thing. Reich can no longer remember for what crime he was sent to prison. He hardly knew his daughter when she met him at the prison doors to bring him back to the city. He could recall that he had had a daughter and a son too, but further than that he knew nothing. He could not remember that his daughter, who now is married and has a family in Cleveland, had been to see him in prison nearly every year since his incarceration.

Reich was convicted on circumstantial evidence in 1888 of having killed his wife. He was sentenced to be hanged, but his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment by Governor David B. Hill.

Castro's War on Asphalt Trust.

Caracas, Venezuela, July 26.—The government by a motion before the federal court, the defense being unrepresented, has placed an attachment on all the properties belonging to the New York and Bermudez Asphalt company, especially on the asphalt lake Guanoaco. Senor Carner, the former manager of the company, was appointed receiver. President Castro some weeks ago demanded \$650,000 of the New York and Bermudez Asphalt company, alleging that the company had given material aid to the late revolutionary movement, causing the Venezuelan government to expend that amount.

Posse Looking For Murderer.

Syracuse, N. Y., July 26.—A posse of fifty farmers, led by deputy sheriffs, is searching the woods about Otisco Onondaga county, for Fred Mason, who shot and killed his father-in-law David Watson, living near Amber. It was reported that the posse had tracked Mason to the brush of a farmer adjoining Wilson's and expected to capture him in a short time. Mason, who is a shoe operative, came from Pltghburg, Mass., ten years ago. He worked on a farm adjoining the Wilsons' place and married Claudia Wilson seven years ago. They had four children.

Guards at Victor Fight Duel.

Trinidad, Colo., July 26.—Word has been received here that two guards employed by the Victor Fuel company at Hastings, twenty miles north of here, became involved in a quarrel and decided to fight a duel. Accordingly they armed themselves with revolvers and began firing at each other. When the guns were emptied the two men drew knives and fought until both dropped dead. The names of the duelists were not given to the coroner here, who was notified of the affair and, together with the sheriff, has gone to the scene of the duel.

Retired Paper Maker Dead.

Pittsfield, Mass., July 26.—George H. Laslin, a retired millmiller paper manufacturer of Chicago, is dead at "The Gables," his summer residence here, aged seventy-six years. Mr. Laslin was born in Connecticut. Early in life he became engaged in the paper business in Berkshire county and later started a similar business in Chicago.

Czar Awaiting His Heir.

St. Petersburg, July 26.—The eyes of all Russia are now turned toward the Alexandra villa at Peterhof, where the court and royal family are assembled in anticipation of the pleasure of greeting an heir to the throne. The emperor has cancelled all engagements.

King Christian All Right.

Copenhagen, Denmark, July 26.—King Christian has arrived here from his visit to Schwerin, capital of the grand duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. He has recovered from his temporary indisposition and looks remarkably well.

BEEF STRIKE SPREADS.

Allied Stockyards Trades Join In Sympathetic Movement.

CONFERENCES PROVE FUTILE.

President Donnelly Insists on General Walkout—Meat Business at a Standstill as Far as the Trust Is Concerned.

Chicago, July 26.—Chicago's sympathetic general strike at the stockyards, predicted by its leaders to be the greatest and most expensive this country has ever known, began at 10 o'clock, when thousands of teamsters, cattle handlers and members of the mechanical trades quit work and made a grand rush for the gates leading from the busiest square mile of buildings, yards and pens in the world.

The first big defection came when 700 men, including the scalers and pen cleaners employed by the Union Stockyards and Transit company, refused to work further. First to go were the handlers, and this eliminated the usefulness of the teamsters, and they followed. As they passed out of the big gates at Exchange avenue they were greeted with cheers by the thousands of strikers gathered in the vicinity.

Prior to this spectacular exodus came small strikes in the various plants, including carpenters, firemen, elevator men, machinists, etc., but these did not have the effect of tying up the plants, since such action had been anticipated, and as often as a union man stepped out a nonunion man or a union man who had deserted his organization was there to take his place. The teamsters and cattle handlers as a whole employed by the various individual firms refused to join in the pre-conference movement so much desired and ardently urged by President Donnelly of the Butchers' union, but at that a large number of them quit and quietly left the yards to attend a big mass meeting called for the benefit of all who had refused to await results of further conferences.

A futile conference. While these walkouts were taking place a conference between strike representatives and the packers was being held at the offices of Nelson Morris & Co. at the yards, and the delegates representing the allied trades were in session at Emerald avenue and Forty-first street.

Earlier in the day the allied trades and the committee of eight teamsters chosen to seek peace anew before permitting the teamsters to strike had been urged by President Donnelly of the meat cutters to declare the general strike and then seek a further conference with the packers.

There was a lively debate, President Golden for the teamsters' governing body declaring his belief that a common sense campaign would end in peace. He pointed out the danger of shutting up the Union Stockyards and Transit company, which he said would be detrimental to the strikers' friends, the independent packers, who were doing the big packers almost as much damage as anybody else. He urged that the stockyards company be permitted to continue under some kind of agreement, but his argument had no weight with President Donnelly, who said: "The time to strike is right now. Let us talk about the independent contractors and about settlements later."

Then it was arranged that President Schardt, representing the Chicago Federation of Labor, and Barney Cohen, representing the Butchers' union, should join the Teamsters' union committee, to which had been added John Sheridan, business agent of the ice wagon drivers. There are 1,200 ice wagon drivers employed by the packers, and with their striking it is admitted the packers would have much difficulty in getting ice for their refrigerators cars.

Teamsters Call on Packers.

Before going to meet the packers the committee of teamsters held a joint conference with the allied trades' representative, and then, with Messrs. Schardt and Cohen, went to meet the packers at the offices of Nelson Morris & Co. While this latter conference was in progress the allied trades' meeting was continued, the delegates being anxious to learn the result of the latest effort to bring about a settlement.

Under instructions the representatives of labor told the packers that they could not waive their demand for reinstatement within forty-eight hours of the cattle butchers and meat cutters and within ten days for all others, and for individual arbitration in all cases of alleged discrimination. The packers were represented by Thomas Wilson for Nelson, Morris & Co., Edward Tilden for Libby, McNeill & Libby, J. E. Maurer for Schwarzschild & Ruizberger, T. J. Connors for Armour & Co. and J. P. Lyman for the National Packing company. The conference was secret, and after it had lasted several hours a representative of the packers said that a settlement seemed as far off as ever.

After the adjournment of the peace conference the fact developed that the sympathetic strike had been declared, officially authorized by the proper boards of all the allied trades at the stockyards, with the exception of the packing house teamsters. The engineers and firemen, to whom word could only be sent with great difficulty, were allowed to stay at their posts until 6 p. m.

In all other departments the strike was actually in effect for two hours or more before the official sanction was made public.

COTTON STRIKE BEGUN.

Order to Fall River Operatives Generally Obeyed.

Fall River, Mass., July 26.—The strike order issued by the Fall River Textile Council, calling for upward of 30,000 operatives to remain away from the mills in protest against a reduction of 12½ per cent in wages, has become effective, and the response was as general as the labor leaders had predicted.

In the thirty-seven mills involved in the agreement to reduce wages but a few, comparatively, of the usual force went to work. It is estimated that not more than 300 entered all the mill gates, in place of the tide of operatives which ordinarily sweeps through the various entrances.

The whistles blew at the usual time, the engineers were at their places, but there were no operatives, at least not enough to operate the mills, and practically every one involved in the trouble had to shut down. The strikers, who in some instances had assembled near the mills, dispersed quietly and silence settled over the usually tumultuous business district.

Both sides admit that this is the beginning of one of the most determined contests which Fall River has ever seen. The manufacturers maintain that they have tried every plan which they could think of to avoid a reduction in wages and took that final step only when driven to do so to save their business. On the other hand, the operatives say that the conditions affecting cotton manufacture here are such that a reduction in wages is no more a remedy than such a step would be in attempting to prevent the ravages of the boll weevil.

Shutdown at Suncok, N. H.

Suncok, N. H., July 26.—A shutdown of two weeks has begun here in the three cotton mills of this town, which employ about 1,500 operatives, and when the mills reopen it will be with a reduction of 12½ per cent in the wages of the workers. So far the operatives have taken no action on the proposed reduction, and it is expected that they will submit to the shutdown. The local mills are controlled by Fall River (Mass.) manufacturers.

No Strike at Taunton.

Taunton, Mass., July 26.—A reduction in wages of 12½ per cent has gone into effect at the cotton mills of the Cora Manufacturing company at East Taunton, but there was no strike. These mills are engaged in the manufacture of practically the same grade of cloth as made in Fall River, and the decision to cut down the payroll followed the similar action taken by the Fall River mills.

DEWEY'S MEN WIN.

Heroes of Manila Bay Will Divide \$228,677 Prize Money.

Washington, July 26.—After a legal battle of several years Admiral Dewey and his men, who fought the battle of Manila, are to receive their prize money on account of the capture of the Don Juan de Austria and other Spanish property. In the supreme court of the District of Columbia Justice Gould has signed an order confirming the report of the auditor in the case, overruling all exceptions filed by either side to the report.

The amount of the property captured finally was fixed at \$1,657,355, a sum considerably in excess of what the government claimed to be due. One half of the amount will be paid to the captors, while the remainder, as provided by law, will be placed to the credit of the navy pension fund.

End of Koenigsberg Treason Trial.

Koenigsberg, Prussia, July 26.—All the accused in the trial for high treason and conspiracy against the Russian emperor were acquitted of treason, as had been expected, and three—Koenigs, Ehrenfort and Braun—were also acquitted on the charge of conspiracy. The other six were convicted of conspiracy and sentenced to short terms of imprisonment—Mertius, Poetz and Kugel to three months, Trep-tan and Novakrotzky to two and a half months and Klein to eight weeks.

Disastrous End of Animal Fight.

San Sebastian, Spain, July 26.—Fourteen persons were injured here as a result of the fight between a tiger and a bull, including Countess Podras Lisaritur, Deputy Urquijo, the Marquis Pidal, vice president of the senate and former Spanish ambassador at the Vatican, and an American whose name is given as "Livingstone" (Livingstone?) of New York. It is said that the American will put in a claim for damages. The managers of the fight are severely blamed.

Kruger's Remains Leave Clarens.

Clarens, Switzerland, July 26.—The remains of Mr. Kruger, late president of the Transvaal, who died here July 14, have been placed on board a train bound for The Hague. The funeral car was decorated with flags and flowers, and the coffin was covered with the flag of the late Transvaal Republic.

Del Val's Resignation Reported.

Rome, July 26.—It is reported that Cardinal Merry del Val, the papal secretary of state, has tendered his resignation to the pope, with an expression of the hope that it may contribute toward a solution of the present difficulties between the Vatican and the government of France.

Winthrop Looking Porto Rico Over.

San Juan, Porto Rico, July 26.—Governor Winthrop has left San Juan on his first tour of inspection of the island. His tour will take a week and include Ponce, Arecibo and Mayaguez.

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BRITISH SHIP SUNK.

Vladivostok Squadron Gets the Knight Commander.

SAILED FROM NEW YORK.

Captured and Destroyed Off Coast of Japan—Russian Vessels Last Seen Cruising in Pacific East of Tokyo German Ship Also Seized.

Tokyo, July 26.—The Vladivostok squadron has been sighted twenty miles off Katsu-nu, in the prefecture of Shimosa, steaming slowly east. Katsu-nu is about 100 miles northeast of Cape Iro, where the Vladivostok squadron was reported last, and is due east of Tokyo.

The British steamer Chinan has arrived at Yokohama with the crew of the British steamer Knight Commander, which was sunk by the Russian Vladivostok squadron off Luzon. The Knight Commander's cargo was a general one. Her European passengers were detained by the Russians, and her crew of twenty-one was transferred to the Chinan, which also reports that the Russians sank two Japanese schooners.

The Vladivostok squadron also captured a German vessel believed to be the Arabia, with 3,000 tons of flour and an unknown British steamer.

The two vessels were sent to Vladivostok in charge of prize crews. The American Trading company is the agent here for the Knight Commander.

BATTLE AT TASHICHAO.

Fighting Still Going on, According to Russia's Latest Reports.

St. Petersburg, July 26.—The simultaneous movement of the Japanese against Tashichao and Hailcheng and their move west from Salmatza may indicate that the Japanese have started a forward movement all along the line, but the war office's information has not yet established such a concerted advance.

The general staff's dispatches in regard to the Japanese advance against Tashichao are meager and incomplete. Fighting was still in progress, according to the latest reports. If the Japanese develop great strength, it is not believed General Stakeberg will offer serious resistance.

In addition to the fighting west of Salmatza the war office also has reports of a sharp movement July 22 and July 23 at Kun pass, northeast of Tappa, on the Fengwangcheng-Hailcheng road.

Consul Ordered to Investigate.

London, July 26.—The foreign office has received news of the sinking of the British steamer Knight Commander and has instructed the British consul at Yokohama to make a full investigation of the case and report at once to Downing street. Until his report is received no action will be taken. The foreign office regrets the incident as coming at an unfortunate time in connection with public opinion here, but the officials refrain from all comment pending receipt of details.

To Interrupt American Trade.

London, July 26.—The Tokyo correspondent of the Times in a dispatch dated July 24 says he believes that the object of the Vladivostok squadron is to interrupt trade between the United States and Japan, and that steamers on the way from Canada and San Francisco are in serious danger. He says that another aim of the squadron is apparently to seal Tokyo bay.

Russians Defeated Near Tashichao.

Newchwang, July 26.—A battle has taken place east of Tashichao, which resulted in the Russians being driven back, and it is believed they will have to retire to Liaoyang. The battle lasted all day.

Battleship Squadron at Fiume.

Washington, July 26.—Cable messages received at the navy department show that the battleships Kearsarge, Maine, Illinois, Alabama, Missouri and Iowa and the cruiser Mayflower have arrived at Fiume, Hungary, from Trieste, and that the cruisers Olympia, Baltimore and Cleveland have left Trieste for Corfu, Greece, on their way to Villafanche.

Wilson Barrett Buried.

London, July 26.—Wilson Barrett has been buried at West Hamstead. Seventy-five carriages followed the hearse while wreaths sent by theatrical people filled a second hearse and several carriages. Most of the leading members of the profession were at the grave.

The First Mackintoshes.

Early in 1513 the Spaniards in Mexico had learned to make caoutchouc sap into shoes and also to use it for waxing their cloaks to render them waterproof, and no doubt that was the origin of the idea of its manufacture into waterproof cloth and the modern Mackintosh.

Tea Tipplers.

Belfast is the great tea drinking city of the United Kingdom.

JUDGE PARKER'S VISITORS.

Senator Daniel, Ex-Senator Jones and D. J. Campau at Rosemount.

Esopus, N. Y., July 26.—Senator John W. Daniel of Virginia is at Rosemount. Others visitors to Rosemount during the day were ex-Senator James K. Jones of Arkansas, chairman of the old national committee, and Daniel J. Campau of Michigan.

Senator Jones had never met Judge Parker and embraced the opportunity of making his acquaintance, which was presented by coming across Mr. Campau on his journey east. Mr. Campau had planned to stop at Rosemount, and Senator Jones decided to accompany him. Before leaving the railway station for the ride to Rosemount Senator Jones paused to talk with newspaper men at the station. He said:

"I have been in Indian Territory since the St. Louis convention and have paid little attention to politics. I do not know whether I will engage actively in the campaign or not."

When asked what will be the attitude of silver Democrats toward the Parker campaign, Senator Jones said:

"I can only speak for myself. I intend to do all I can to insure the election of the Democratic ticket."

To Leave Oyster Bay Thursday.

Oyster Bay, N. Y., July 26.—President Roosevelt's last days at Sagamore Hill, during his present sojourn here, give promise of being the busiest he has had since his arrival. On Wednesday the ceremony incident to his notification of the action of the Chicago convention will be held. On Thursday morning at 9 o'clock the president, accompanied by Secretary Loeb and the force of executive clerks now here, will leave for Washington. It is the president's intention to remain in Washington until Aug. 20, when he will return to Sagamore Hill for another sojourn of about six weeks. During his absence in Washington Mrs. Roosevelt and the children will remain at Sagamore Hill.

Bryan Won't Speak in Chicago.

Chicago, July 26.—The Tribune says William Jennings Bryan will not speak at the Democratic ratification picnic on Aug. 20. He is in Chicago on his way from Albert Lea, Minn., to Delaware, O. "I shall do no political work," he said, "until after the Chautauque session. A lecture engagement will prevent my speaking at the Harrison picnic here next month. During the campaign I shall make stump speeches in Missouri and Nebraska."

A Siberian God.

Siberia has set up a sort of mahdi of his own in the person of a man who calls himself "the god Alrot," who is expected to appear by the Mongols and Kalmuks of the Altai mountains, says the London Sketch. He lives in a hut made of mud and never shows himself to the people, but is waited upon by an old man dressed in white and by a young girl whom he employs as a medium for his communications with his followers. It is very difficult to gain any information about this man, for the Kalmuks, who are usually very outspoken, in this case are keeping the most profound secrecy. All that is known is that this so called god has forbidden his people to possess any money but gold and silver and that therefore they are getting rid of their Russian paper money even at a loss. Happily for the czar, there seems to be no connection between the appearance of the god Alrot and the war with Japan.

The Body Beautiful.

A brilliant writer said to me the other day that the world seems to be reverting to the old Grecian love of physical prowess and admiration for the body beautiful, says Dr. Richard Cole Newton in the Medical Record. Of course we are a long way from this yet. Fancy our hollow chested, pigeon toed women, with their square hips and hour glass waists, dressed as the Greeks used to dress. Fancy our average business man, with his protuberant paunch and skinny arms, posing as a Greek hero. Sad as this thought is, there is room for encouragement. Our people, both men and women, are improving in size, figure and carriage and will continue to improve. Whether the general intelligence and mental development will ever reach as high an average among us as it did among the Athenians is quite another question.

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